



Economic Opportunity Atlanta, Inc.

101 Marietta Street Bldg. • Atlanta, Georgia 30303 •

T. M. Parham
Executive Administrator

TWO NEW EOA PROGRAMS FOR ATLANTA'S CITIZENS

Because so many people ask "What can I do," and "How can I find out what's going on," EOA is offering two programs to help them learn first hand and to become involved.

The week of January 12 will be proclaimed START NOW ATLANTA week to alert citizens to the city's needs and to introduce the two programs.

I. FIND OUT

One program is run by poverty area residents who want to show other Atlantans what progress they have made in their neighborhoods and what obstacles they still face. Twenty-two residents have volunteered to lead tours through their neighborhoods. They call themselves V. I. P.'s or Volunteer Information People, and are members of EOA neighborhood self help groups in 14 low income areas served by EOA neighborhood centers.

One of the V. I. P.'s described their purpose this way:

"We're tired of them people coming through here shaking their heads about the rats and garbage and nasty shacks and not seeing us. Since we learned how, we've did more for ourselves than anyone have did for us and we're going to do more. We're people too. Some of us have a lot of talent. After we get off our jobs, we spend most of our hours working to make our neighborhoods better. We want to talk with people who come through here. Maybe if we work with each other we can get rid of this load. It ain't good for none of us."

Groups or individuals interested in scheduling visits to poverty areas should call 525-4262. For further information contact:

Mrs. Mary Lu Mitchell
Director of Public Information
Economic Opportunity Atlanta, Inc.
101 Marietta Street, N. W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
Telephone: 525-4262

II. VOLUNTEER

The other program provides new volunteer jobs for Atlantans who want to help poverty area residents remove the obstacles they still face.

In the past volunteers have been used to supplement professional staffs. This rich resource of skill, enthusiasm and ability has not been fully utilized.

EOA will offer sensitivity training and coordination for:

1. Volunteers who want specific assignments at agencies or centers.
2. Volunteers who are innovative enough to develop their own programs.
3. Volunteers who want to work in partnership with block groups in a low income area.
4. Volunteers who want to work with their own friends and neighbors in changing attitudes and studying specific problems.

The first training program will be conducted by the Multi-Purpose Training Center on January 22,23, and 24.

Groups or individuals interested in volunteering should call 525-4262. For further information contact:

Mrs. June Sammons
Volunteer Coordinator
Economic Opportunity Atlanta, Inc.
101 Marietta Street, N. W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
Telephone: 525-4262